WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.
RECEIVED
14 SEP 1953
A.

BALA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1952

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bala Urban District Council.

The report for the year ended 31st. December, 1952 is based on information received, as I did not take up my duties until the 1st. January 1953. Dr. W. F. Gapper, County Medical Officer of Health acted as District Medical Officer of Health in the period following the relinquishing of the post by Dr. Evan Williams.

There was a further decrease in population from 1488 to 1445 in the figures given by the Registrar Generals' Mid-year estimate. (A decrease of 43 compared with the previous year's 35).

The total number of Live Births was 20 and the total number of Deaths was 24. The Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births in children under 1 year was 50.00 (there being 1 death of an infant under 1 year as opposed to 2 in the previous year when the rate was 90.91).

The total number of deaths fron cancer was 4 this being the same as in 1951.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis during the year. Two new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, and no case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. A particularly encouraging feature in regard to this disease was the greatly increased number of adults who submitted themselves for Mass Radiography - 490 in 1952 as opposed to only 86 in 1951, but this must not mean that there should be grounds for complacency, as early diagnosis is the key to cure and length of treatment in Tuberculosis.

Of the other notifiable diseases, there were 5 new cases during the year.

The fact that no new houses were completed during the year did not reflect the true state of affairs as a number of houses were well on the way to completion at the year's end. In connection with housing I should like to draw the Council's attention to the Croydon Experiment, where old property has been repaired and improved from the sanitary and ammenity point of view, at a reasonable cost - far less than that of a new council house.

The provision of sanitary and washing facilities in shops has been satisfactory. This is a particularly important factor in clean food handling. The Principal Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health has emphasised the increase in gastro-enteric infection in his last report, and the public as well as tradespeople should be educated in clean food handling practices.

I wish to thank Mr. Jones the Sanitary Inspector for his co-operation in the preparation of this report.

SECTION A. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of Urban District in acres	-	659
Rateable Value	-	£7638
Population (Registrar General's figures)	-	1445
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	-	£ 29. 5. 0d
Number of inhabited houses (according to the Rate Books) at end of year	-	509

COMPARABILITY FACTORS

Births	1.04
Deaths	0.82

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Nett Births (Live and Still)	21
Births (Live)	20
Births (Still)	1

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 13.84

Live Births

	Males	Females
Total	12	8
Legitimate	12	8
Illegitimate	-	-

Illegitimate Birth Rate (Percentage of Total Live Births)-Nil

DEATHS

Total number - 24
Males - 12 Females - 12

Rate per 1,000 Population - 16.61
1951 figures - 14.79

Deaths of Infants under One Year

Total 1

	Males	Females
Total	1	-
Legitimate	1	-
Illegitmate	-	-

Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 Live Births) - 50.00
1951 figures - 90.91

Deaths of Legitimate Infants
Mortality (per 1,000 live births) - 50.00

Deaths of Illegitimate Infants
Mortality(per 1,000 live births) - Nil.

Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks

	Males	Females
Total	1	-
Legitimate	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-

Maternal Mortality

Deaths connected with childbrith and pregnancy - Nil

Deaths from Cancer

Total - 4
Rate per 1,000 population - 2.77

Deaths from Tuberculosis

Total - Nil
Rate per 1,000 population - Nil

SECTION B. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(1) Public Health Officers of the Authority

One Medical Officer of Health.
One Sanitary Inspector.

(2) Laboratory Facilities

Water analysis (Chemical) carried out by Mr. Harold Lowe, Public Analyst, Chester.

Water analysis (Bacteriological) and Milk examination for cleanliness and keeping quality by the Public Health Laboratory Conway and Aberystwyth.

(3) Ambulance Facilities

One ambulance has been stationed in the Urban area since August.

(4) Infant Welfare Clinics

Held every fortnight at the Congregational Chapel Vestry.

(5) Ante Natal Clinics

Held twice a month at the Cottage Hospital, Dolgelley.

(6) Orthopaedic Clinic

Held once a month at the Congregational Chapel Vestry.

(7) Tuberculosis Clinic

Held at the Cottage Hospital, Dolgelley twice a month.

(8) Diphtheria Immunisation

Arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health. Immunisation of babies and young infants is carried out at regular intervals at the Primary School.

(9) Hospitals

There is no hospital within the Urban area.

(10) Infectious Diseases

Total number of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year - 5

Scarlet Fever	- 3
Bacillary Dysentry	- Nil
Whooping Cough	- Nil
Measles	- 2
Infantile Paralysis	- Nil

TUBERCULOSIS	NEW CASES			
Pulmonary		Total 2		
	Males 1		Females 1	
Non-Pulmonary		Total Nil		
	Males Nil		Females Nil	

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS				
Pulmonary		Total Nil		
	Males Nil		Females Nil	
Non-Pulmonary		Total Nil		
	Males Nil		Females Nil	

TUBERCULOSIS (continued)

New Cases and Mortality during 1952 in age groups.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respirat	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
2								
5								
10								
15	1							
20								
25		1						
35								
45								
55								
65								
75								

CAUSES OF DEATH 1952

	M	F
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Cancer Stomach	-	1
" Lung	-	-
" Breast	-	-
" Other Sites	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	3
Coronary disease, angina	1	1
Hypertension with heart disease	-	-
Other heart diseases	3	4
Other circulatory disease	-	-
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-
Bronchitis	-	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	-
Motor Vehicle accidents	-	-
All other accidents	-	-
Suicide	-	-
Diabetes	-	1
	12	12

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

No action was found necessary

GENERAL

MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT

The Mass Radiography unit visited the Urban area, 781 persons being X-rayed.

Under 15 years		Over 15 years		Total	
M	F	M	F	M	F
146	145	265	225	411	370

New Houses Built

(1) By Local Authority - Nil

(2) By Private Enterprise - Nil

Disinfection. There are no facilities for disinfection.

Water Supplies. The water supply is ample, and in order to maintain supply and pressure, work on replacing the six inch main from Llyn Arenig was commenced; some 1,200 yards being renewed.

Water services to some of the houses in Bala have corroded badly and need renewing in order that they may have an adequate supply for domestic purposes. Owners of such property have been asked to improve the service, and some have already complied. It is hoped that the others will also do so without the issue of Statutory Notices.

Clean Food. Byelaws for the clean handling of food were given personally by the Sanitary Inspector to all food premises. Notices also were handed to shopkeepers requesting the Public not to bring dogs into shops where food is sold. All complied with the request but since, some of the notices have been removed.

During the year some of the responsibilities under the Shops Act 1950 dealing with the provision of sanitary and washing facilities were transferred from the County Council to the District Councils.

Most of the shops had been inspected previous to this transfer and the majority had complied with requests to provide facilities.

Return of Inspections for Year Ending December 1952

Urban District B A L A Sanitary Inspector.

No. of complaints received during the quarter

Inspections of:-

1. Dwelling Houses - 155
2. Nuisances found - 101
3. Instances of overcrowding - 2
4. Moveable dwellings, Tents, Vans - Licensed camp at Loch Cafe Ground
5. Verminous Premises - Nil
6. Infectious disease cases disinfected - 4
7. Bakehouses - 4 Bakehouses 36 inspections
8. Ice Cream Premises - 28
9. Fried Fish Shops - 1 newly constructed with adjoining cafe
10. Dairies - 3 Dairies regularly visited and samples taken. One not satisfactorily maintained.
11. Meat Shops - 5 Shops regularly inspected.
12. Bread Shops
13. Slaughter Houses - No slaughter house in district.
14. No. of animals slaughtered - Pigs 2 casualties examined.
15. No. of animals infected with T.B. - Nil
16. No. of animals infected with other diseases - Nil.
17. No. of instances of food condemned - 20 involving small amounts of tinned foods.
18. Shops Act, San Acc. and Washing Facilities - 72
19. Milk Samples:- Schools 6 Others 4
20. Water Samples - 3 from Council's Mains supply all satisfactory.
    New connections re water supply
    a. Dwelling Houses - Nil
    b. Others - Nil
21. Inspection of Schools-Lavatory arrangements - 12
22. Informal notices sent - 27
23. Statutory Notices sent - 4 Housing Act 1936 Sec 9
24. Nuisances abated - 2
25. Overcrowding abated - 1 Provided with Council house and house dealt with under Section 11 H.A. 1936. Owners undertaking accepted not to use further as house. No demolition.

FACTORIES ACT 1937

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act 1937

PART I of the ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of the provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written notices (4)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2,3,4,and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities				
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	10	56	3	Nil
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.				
TOTAL	10	56	3	Nil

2.- Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Insp. (4)	Referred By H.M. Insp. (5)	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable Temp (S.3) t					
Inadequate Ventilation(S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors(S.6)					
Sanitary Conv'ces (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	2				
(b) Unsuitable or defective					
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1			
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)					
TOTAL	3	1	-	-	-